

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02027 141618Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-07 /021 W
-----053513 141640Z /47

O R 141434Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6114
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS LUSAKA 2027

FOR IOP/M

FOR IBS/PA, PASS IPS

STATE FOR AF/E AND AF/S

NAIROBI FOR VOA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: A

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION

THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL, IN AN EDITORIAL TODAY
CALLS ON RHODESIAN
ARMY CHIEF, LIEUTENANT GENERAL PETER WALLS,
TO TELL THAT COUNTRY'S WHITES THE TRUTH, THAT THEY CANNOT WIN THE
WAR NOW GOING ON.

AS THE WAR GETS WORSE FOR THE WHITE SETTLER ARMY IN RHODESIA, THE
MAIL SAYS, LIEUTENANT GENERAL WALLS IS THE ONLY MAN WHO HAS "A VERY
CLEAR PICTURE OF WHICH WAY THE WAR IS GOING FOR REBEL LEADER IAN
SMITH".

"THIS MAN IS UNDER NO ILLUSIONS WHICH WAY THE WAR IS GOING.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 02027 141618Z

HE HAS ONLY 270,000 WHITE SETTLER AND UNRELIABLE MERCENARIES FROM
WHICH TO DRW HIS FIGHTERS. THE MAJORITY OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN
ENROLLED IN THE TERRITORIALS HAVE BEEN TO THE FRONT SEVERAL TIMES
OVER," SAYS THE EDITORIAL.

THESE, ACCORDING TO THE PAPER, ARE DRAWN FROM THE WORKING POPULATION
OF WHITES WHO PRIMARILY CAME TO RHODESIA TO MAKE MONEY "AND

CERTAINLY NOT TO BE DRAWN INTO PROTRACTED LIBERATION WARS."

AS THE LIBERATION WAR GOES ON, SAYS THE NEWSPAPER, THESE MEN GET MORE AND MORE FED UP. IN FACT, THEY GET TOO FED UP TO THE EXTENT THEY CANNOT BE COUNTED UPON AS GOOD SOLDIERS.

"THIS IS MORE SO THAT THE MAJORITY OF THESE PEOPLE ARE TIRED OLD MEN WHO ARE ONLY IN RHODESIA EITHER TO COMPLETE THEIR SOJOURNS THERE AS CIVIL SERVANTS AND COLLECT THEIR PENSIONS OR THEY ARE THERE BECAUSE THEY HAVE BEEN FED ON LIES THAT ALL WILL SOON BE WELL BY SMITH'S PROPAGANDA MACHINE," IT SAYS.

THE OTHERS IN MR. SMITH'S PAY ARE BLACKS WHO HAVE BEEN "FORCED" TO FIGHT FOR HIM AS A RESULT OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE COUNTRY, ACCORDING TO THE EDITORIAL.

"THESE BLACK SOLDIERS SUFFER FROM THEIR OWN CONSCIENCE WHICH IS EATING THEM EVERYDAY OF THEIR LIFE AS THEY ARE KILLING THEIR OWN PEOPLE AND ALSO AS THEY REFLECT WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THEM WHEN THE SMITH REGIME FINALLY COLLAPSES AS SURE IT WILL," EDITORIALIZES THE MAIL.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL WALLS, FEELS THE MAIL, IS TOO GOOD A SOLDIER UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LUSAKA 02027 141618Z

HIMSELF TO RELY ON THE SERVICES OF SUCH PEOPLE.

THE OTHERS WHO MAKE UP THE RHODESIAN ARMY, SAYS THE PAPER, ARE MERCENARIES WHO WILL GET OUT OF THE COUNTRY IMMEDIATELY THINGS GET TOO HOT FOR THEM.

THE NEWSPAPER NOTES THAT MILITARY GENIUS IS NOT REQUIRED TO KNOW THE IMMENSE PROBLEMS FACING A RHODESIA WHICH DOES NOT MANUFACTURE WEAPONS BUT MUST RELY ON SOUTH AFRICA FOR THEM, AND "THESE CAN BE WITHDRAWN AT ANY TIME SOUTH AFRICA IS FORCED TO FEEL THE WORLD PRESSURES," SAYS THE MAIL.

THE MAIL SAYS MR. WALLS IS FIGHTING A WAR WHICH HE AND HIS TROOPS KNOW TO BE MORALLY WRONG.

"HE IS FIGHTING A WAR WHICH IS AGAINST HIS OWN BETTER MILITARY JUDGEMENT AND WHICH HAS NO POLITICAL JUSTIFICATION. HE KNOWS THAT THE BEST THAT CAN HAPPEN TO HIS ARMY IS TO SEE THE WAR DRAG ON FOR YEARS AND HIS BEST SOLDIERS DROPPING OUT TO CERTAIN DEATH IN THEIR PRIME."

IMPLORES THE MAIL: "IN THE NAME OF GOD, IT IS TIME THAT LIEUTENANT
GENERAL PETER WALLS PLUCKED UP COURAGE AND TOLD THE WHITE PEOPLE
OF RHODESIA THE TRUTH ABOUT THE WAR; THAT THEY CANNOT KEEP ON
SENDING MEN TO THE FRONT ONLY TO GO AND
DIE TODAY, AND IF THEY
DO NOT DIE TODAY, TO BE SURE TO DIE TOMORROW.

THE NEWSPAPER CONCLUDES WITH THESE WORDS: "HE IS THE ONLY MAN
WHO CAN TELL THE WHITES IN RHODESIA THAT THEY DO NOT HAVE A CHANCE
IN A MILLION TO WIN THE WAR AND THEREFORE THE FUTILITY OF IT ALL.
WALLS MUST DO SOMETHING TO SAVE THE LIVES OF HIS PEOPLE."
ITEM USIS LUSAKA.
BURNS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LUSAKA02027
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770251-0049
Format: TEL
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770758/aaaabxzk.tel
Line Count: 128
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3188566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1863349
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEDIA REACTION THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL, IN AN EDITORIAL TODAY CALLS ON RHODESIAN
TAGS: SOPN, ZA
To: USIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3188566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009